

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A method of producing a dry analytical element comprising a water-impermeable transparent support, at least one water-permeable layer, and a spreading layer which is composed of polyester fibers and has a function of spreading liquid uniformly, laminated in this order, which comprises supplying an organic solvent having both hydrophilic and hydrophobic characteristics not containing a reagent onto the spreading layer to coat the surface of the polyester fibers with the organic solvent, and ~~then thereafter~~, supplying a reagent solution containing a critical reagent for an objective analysis while leaving the organic solvent on the surface.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is a lower alcohol containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms or a ketone.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is supplied in an amount of 30 to 90% of the spreading layer by volume.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the spreading layer after the organic solvent is dried until the amount of the organic solvent coating becomes 0.1 to 5 % of the supplied amount.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the solvent of the reagent solution is an organic solvent.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the

organic solvent is ethanol or acetone.

Claim 9 (New): The method of claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is
as is.